Rains and floods in Kerala and Tamil Nadu

803. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) what is the death toll, number of persons reportedly missing and damage caused to properties and crops in the recent floods caused by the torrential rains lashing Tamil Nadu and Kerala recently;

(b) whether any Central Team has gone to these floods hit States to assess the damage caused by the rains indicating the amount of immediate relief sanctioned so far by the Central Government for the people of the cyclone hit victims of Tamil Nadu, Kerala and also Pondicherry;

(c) what steps Government have taken so far for rehabilitation of flood victims in these States; and

(d) what amount of compensation has been paid by the Central Government and the State Government to the families of the deceased ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) The extent of damage reported by the State Government on the basis of prelimi-\ nary assessments, is as follows :—

	Tamil Nadu	Kerala
(i) Human lives lost	230	56
(ii) Persons Missing	—	22
(iii) No. of houses damaged	1,43,600	11,470
(iv) Crops damaged (lakh ha.)	0.69	Being assessed

(b) No Central Team has visited the floods hit States to assess the damage. However, advance release of 4th quarterly instalment for 1992-53 and first 2 instalments for the year 1993-94 of the Central share of Calamity Relief Fund (CRF) amounting to Rs. 21.9375 crores have been released to Tamil Nadu State for taking up relief operations.

(c) The relief and rehabilitation measures undertaken by the State Governments include :—

(i) Opening of relief camps;

(ii) Dropping of food packets;

(iii) Gratuitous relief;

(iv) Assistance for repair/reconstruction of damaged houses.

(v) Assistance to affected fanners.

(d) Government of Tamil Nadu has made ex-gratia payment of Rs. 10,000/- in case of each death. Government of Kerala have also paid ex-gratia in case of death Rs. 25,000/- each per adult and Rs. 15,000/- for others.

Delhi Milk Scheme

804. DR. ABRAR AHMED :
SHRI VIRENDRA KATARIA :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) what are the reasons for increasing the price of Delhi Milk Scheme in Delhi;

(b) whether it is a fact that Delhi Milk Scheme is still running into losses despite increase in milk prices, if so, the details thereof during the last three years, year-wise indicating the reasons for such losses;

(c) the steps taken by Government to reduce expenditure and check malpractices in Delhi Milk Scheme; and

(d) whether Government would contemplate to entrust the management of Delhi Milk Scheme to private sector keeping in view the continuous losses despite rise in the prices of Delhi Milk Scheme products, and if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI K. C. LENKA) ; (a) Price increase with